

Memorandum

Public Works Department



DATE: January 16, 2008
TO: Mayor & Council
FROM: Jyme Sue McLaren, Deputy Public Works Manager - Light Rail (350-8803)
THRU: Glenn Kephart, Public Works Manager (350-8205)
SUBJECT: **Tempe South Corridor Study Update – IRS Meeting 01/24/08**

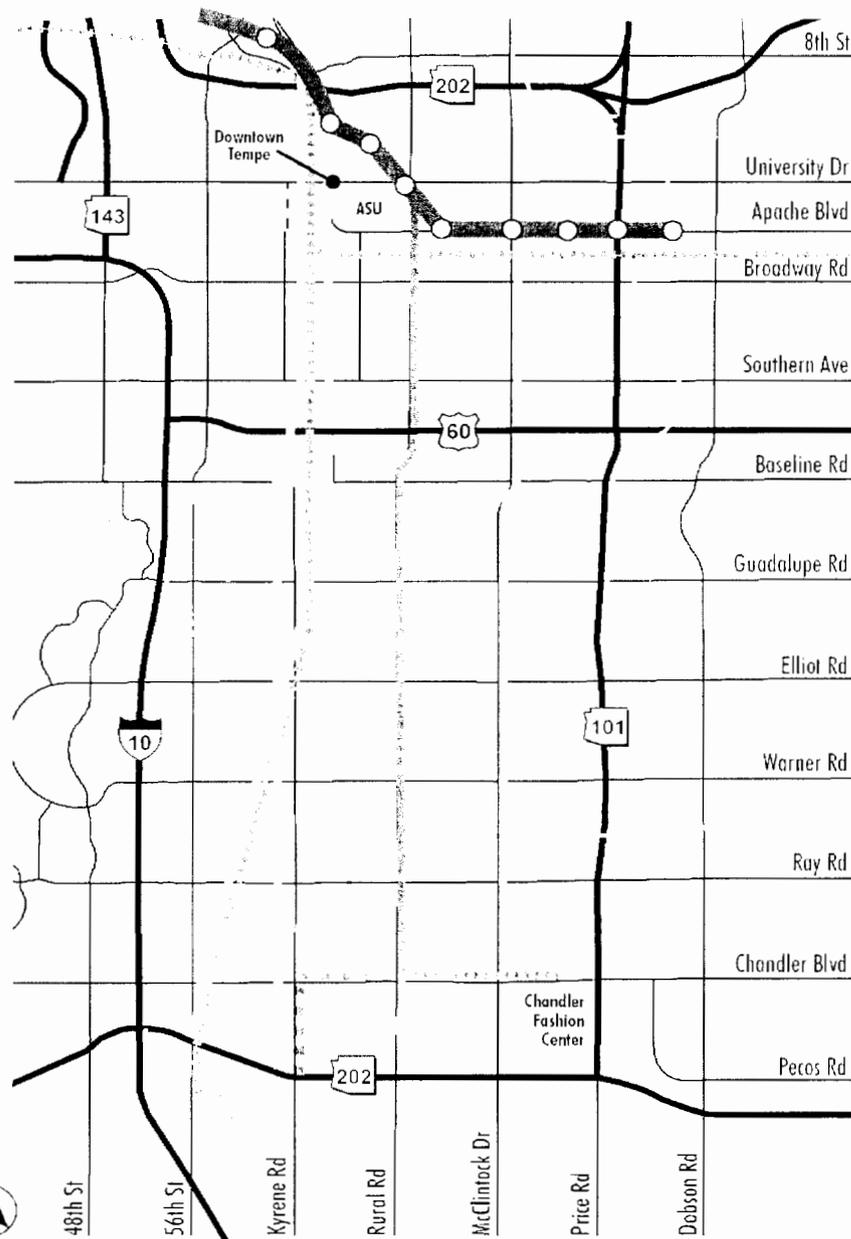
Staff will be available at the January 24, 2008 IRS meeting to provide an update on and seek Council direction on potential alignments and transit technologies being considered as a part of the Tempe South Corridor Study.

The cities of Tempe and Chandler are working with METRO on a 24-month study to analyze potential high capacity transit improvements. The study began in fall 2007. This study is evaluating a range of high capacity transit technologies (bus rapid transit, commuter rail, light rail and modern streetcar), as well as potential north-south alignments (e.g., Mill Avenue, Kyrene Road, Rural Road and McClintock Drive). Council was provided a briefing on the study in September 2007. Since that time, an additional transit technology is being considered, commuter rail. Attachment 1 shows the study area as well as potential alignments and transit technologies under consideration. Attachment 2 shows a regional vision for commuter rail service.

Staff is seeking Council direction to consider commuter rail in the study effort. Because commuter rail implementation is dependent on partnerships outside the City, staff is also seeking Council direction to begin dialog with significant stakeholders in the advancement of a commuter rail option.

Attachments: Attachment 1 – Tempe South Corridor Study Area and Potential Route Alternatives
Attachment 2 – High Capacity Transit Alternatives

Attachment One: Tempe South Corridor Study Area and Potential Route Alternatives



LEGEND

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|-------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Light Rail Starter Line | Tempe Branch ¹ | Rural Rd. ² |
| Station | Rural Rd. west option ² | Rural Rd. east option ² |
| Tempe Study Area | Mill Ave./Kyrene Rd. ² | |
| Union Pacific Railroad | McClintock Dr. ² | |
| City Boundary | | |

Note 1: Could be Bus Rapid Transit, modern streetcar, Light Rail Transit, or commuter rail.
Note 2: Could be Bus Rapid Transit, modern streetcar, or Light Rail Transit.

Attachment Two: Potential Commuter Rail Options – Regional Perspective

